

At a Glance:

California State Parks' Recreation Proposal for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh

See the proposal at <http://www.parks.ca.gov/deltarecreation>

This proposal provides California State Parks' suggestions on expanding state recreation areas in the Delta and Suisun Marsh as provided in the Delta Reform Act of 2009. It includes specific recommendations on:

- Improvements to and, in some cases, expansion of California State Parks' four Delta recreation areas and six other state parks on the edge of the Delta and Suisun Marsh region.
- Opportunities to create four new state parks to serve the region
- Ways to improve recreation at wildlife habitat areas, publicly owned levees, scenic highways, state



- recreational trails, and other public lands
- Methods to coordinate recreation and tourism efforts
- Cooperation between State, local and federal agencies, visitor-serving businesses,

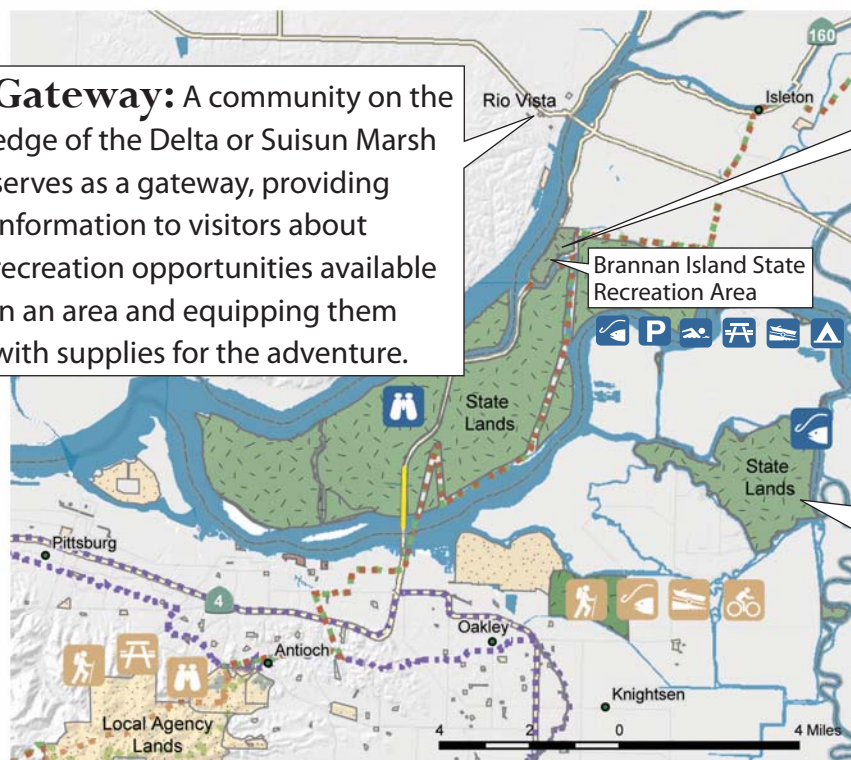
and non-profit organizations

Improving recreation and tourism in the region will also contribute to the area's economic vitality, supporting jobs, growing businesses, generating tax revenues that finance public services, and improving the quality of life that makes the Delta and Suisun Marsh region an attractive place to live, visit, and do business.

The Gateway-Basecamp-Adventure strategy

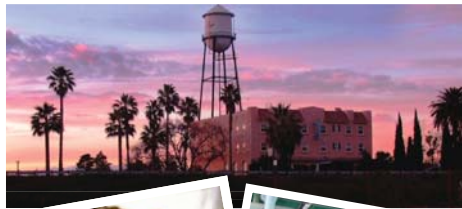
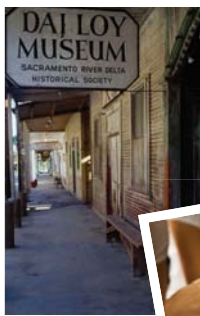
To help more people discover and enjoy the region's recreation opportunities while reducing costs, the proposal recommends the strategy illustrated here.

Gateway: A community on the edge of the Delta or Suisun Marsh serves as a gateway, providing information to visitors about recreation opportunities available in an area and equipping them with supplies for the adventure.



Basecamp: A park, resort, or town serves as a basecamp, providing services such as park ranger and interpretive services, as well as facilities such as parking, restrooms, picnic sites, boat ramps, and campgrounds.

Adventure: Offering diverse recreation activities may entice more visitors to stay longer, visit for the first time, or visit more often. Visitors may take scenic roads, trails, water trails, or heritage corridors to nearby hiking, wildlife viewing, angling, hunting, and other activities, as well as tour heritage and agritourism sites.



Delta Adventures: Heritage Tourism

I live in the Bay Area but never took time to explore the Delta. We explored Locke's historic buildings and Isleton's art galleries. We spent the next day tasting wine, shopping and dining at Clarksburg's Sugar Mill. Next year, we'll bring the grandchildren.

See more Delta Adventures scenarios in the report.

Many recreation opportunities are waiting to be discovered:

- picnicking, camping, swimming, and bicycling;
- fishing and boating along the miles of waterways;
- bird watching, other nature activities, and hunting;
- enjoying the restaurants, parks, resorts, and historic towns scattered throughout the region; and
- enjoying events that draw visitors to taste local food and learn about this unique place.

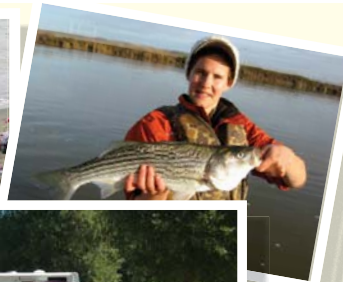
See more on pages 8-29 of the report.

Contributing to a Sustainable Economy

Recreation and tourism contribute to the prosperity of the Delta and Suisun Marsh economy in many ways:

- Tourists and residents spend millions of dollars on lodging, food, equipment, and recreation.
- Agricultural tourism may benefit farmers.
- Sales tax and other revenues flow to local governments to fund public benefits.
- Communities benefit when aquatic ecosystems are healthy.
- Outdoor recreation helps support a higher quality of life.
- The cost of flood damage and protecting water quality is less on lands used as parks or open space.
- Outdoor recreation and tourism contribute positively to the reputation of the region.

See more on economic and quality-of-life outcomes on pages 30-32 of the report.



Delta Adventures: Fun with Family and Friends

Our annual Brannan Island vacation is held at shady campsites. We bring our boat and tents for the younger adults and kids, and rent an RV for the older folks. I found a great bait shop in Rio Vista, and we catch the biggest stripers and catfish in the Delta. Last year we rented jet skis. Why vacation far away when you can get away to the Delta and bring friends along, too?

See more Delta Adventures scenarios in the report.